



## For Immediate Release

January 13, 2015

### Shelby County Offers FREE Preparedness Training



**Photo Caption:** Eugene Jones, left, CERT Coordinator, instructs a CERT student, right, how to safely use an ABC fire extinguisher during Fire Suppression.

Is one of your New Year's Resolutions to get prepared - to be ready for any hazard and threat that may occur in Shelby County? If so, the Shelby County Office of Preparedness is offering **free** Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training on January 24 and 31, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You and your family are welcome to attend!

"CERT training prepares citizens to take a leadership role after an unexpected event occurs in their neighborhood, workplace, and elsewhere in the community, until the professional rescuers arrive on the scene," said Dale Lane, Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

On these two consecutive Saturdays, students are presented valuable, life-saving information and learn what to do before, during, and after a disaster. Through lectures, videos, and hands-on exercises, students gain valuable knowledge and skills that will serve them well during an unexpected event. CERT modules include: Disaster Preparedness, Terrorism, Medical Triage and First-Aid, Disaster Psychology, Hazardous Materials, Fire Suppression, and Light Search and Rescue.

Eugene Jones, Preparedness Officer / CERT Coordinator, oversees the training which is held at the Shelby County Office of Preparedness, 1075 Mullins Station Road, Building C, Memphis, TN 38134. Students under 18 years of age should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. To contact Eugene Jones, please email [Eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:Eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov), or call 901.222.6719. CERT pre-registration is required. To register for CERT, please email Sandra Mathias, Reserve Manager, at [mathiassl@bellsouth.net](mailto:mathiassl@bellsouth.net).

Let's start the New Year right by getting prepared!

**End of Release**